## IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN RE: : Case No. 11-06938-MDF

Chapter 9

CITY OF HARRISBURG, PA,

Debtor

Hearing Date: 11/23/11 at 9:30 AM

# THE COUNTY OF DAUPHIN'S OBJECTIONS TO THE DEBTOR'S CHAPTER 9 BANKRUPTCY PETITION UNDER 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(C)(2) and 921(C) AND REQUEST TO DECLARE THE DEBTOR'S BANKRUPTCY PETITION VOID *AB INITIO*

- 1. On October 11, 2011 at 10:32 PM the City of Harrisburg, PA (the "Debtor") filed a Chapter 9 bankruptcy petition (the "Petition") in the above captioned case.
- 2. The Debtor, by and through Susan Wilson on behalf of the city council for the Debtor ("City Council"), filed the Petition and indicated the Petition was authorized to be filed under applicable state law.
  - 3. The County of Dauphin is a creditor of the Debtor.
- 4. The Debtor, by and through City Council, was not authorized to file the Petition under 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(c)(2) and 921(c) because:
  - (a) Pennsylvania law prohibits distressed cities, such as the Debtor, from filing for federal bankruptcy protection.

In the event this Court believes there was a statutory basis under Pennsylvania law for the Debtor to file for federal bankruptcy protection, the County of Dauphin alternatively objects to the Petition because:

- (b) Pennsylvania law and the Harrisburg City Code prohibit City Council from signing and filing the Petition pursuant to a resolution authorizing such action, and
- (c) Pennsylvania law and the Harrisburg City Code require the Petition to be signed and filed by the Mayor and not a member of City Council.

5. The Petition was not filed in compliance with 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(c)(2) and 921(c) and should be dismissed and deemed void *ab initio*.

WHEREFORE, the Petition should be dismissed and declared void *ab initio* because the Debtor was not authorized to file for bankruptcy protection under Pennsylvania law, City Council was not authorized to sign and file the Petition on behalf of the Debtor, and City Council must pass an ordinance to allow the Petition to be signed and filed along with such other relief that is just and proper.

McNEES, WALLACE & NURICK LLC

Date: October 28, 2011

By: /s/ Clayton W. Davidson

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#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I, Clayton W. Davidson, of the firm of McNees Wallace & Nurick, LLC, hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of The County Of Dauphin's Objections To The Debtor's Chapter 9 Bankruptcy Petition Under 11 U.S.C. §§ 109(C)(2) And 921(C) And Request To Declare The Debtor's Bankruptcy Petition Void Ab Initio upon the parties listed below by filing it with the Clerk of the Bankruptcy Court using the CM/ECF system.

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Date: October 28, 2011

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